



# CALWORKS STARTING OUT STRONG PROGRAM

# You may be eligible to participate in the CalWORKs Starting Out Strong Program

# ABOUT THE CALWORKS STARTING OUT STRONG PROGRAM

- CalWORKs Starting Out Strong Program is a voluntary program that matches you with a nurse or trained professional who will meet with you at a location that you choose in the community, in our offices or your home.
- The program offers parenting support, advocacy and activities to support access to prenatal and postnatal care, various health and social services, and parenting education and support.
- Your family may be eligible to receive these family support services for up to twenty-four months or until your child's third birthday, whichever is later.

#### PROGRAM ENROLLMENT ELIGIBILITY

- A member of a CalWORKs assistance unit; the parent/caretaker relative for a child-only case; CalWORKs sanctioned and CalWORKs timed out families; and
- Currently pregnant or a parent/caretaker to a child less than 36 months of age at the time of enrollment in the CalWORKs Starting Out Strong Program.

### PROGRAM BENEFITS

- Your family may receive many benefits from participating such as:
  - Improved health for you and your child(ren);
  - New parenting skills and ideas;
  - Lower stress levels;
  - Support for your child(ren)'s development;
  - Referrals and resources for you and your child(ren); and
  - Opportunities for your child to enroll in high-quality child care services, play groups or other enrichment activities to give your child(ren) the best start in life.
- A home visitor will provide guidance, coaching, and connections to resources that help improve your families' education, social, economic, and financial outlook.

Funding for this program is provided by the California Department of Social Services CalWORKs Home Visiting Program.

To volunteer to participate in the program, please sign, date, and return this form to Social Services Agency (SSA) staff.

#### STARTING OUT STRONG PROGRAM PARTICIPATION REQUEST

□ I would like to participate in the CalWORKs Starting Out Strong Program and understand that I may choose where we meet and voluntarily terminate program services at any time.

l am:

# ...a pregnant person ...a parent/guardian of a child less than 36 months of age

□ I do not want to participate in the Starting Out Strong Program at this time but understand that I may volunteer to participate in the future by informing SSA staff, who will determine if I am still eligible to participate.

Reason(s) for declining home visiting services:

- □ Currently receiving home visiting services.
- □ Do not feel program will provide any benefits.
- □ Not interested in receiving home visiting services.
- □ Other: \_\_\_

#### By signing this form, I understand the following:

- The information I provided will be shared with the Alameda County Public Health Department, so they can contact me and schedule a time for the visits to begin in a location that I choose,
- I may terminate the visits at any time, and
- Participation in this program will not affect my eligibility for any other CalWORKs benefits, supports, or services, including welfare-to-work exemptions.

Case Name	Case Number
Name of Parent or Caretaker Relative	Phone
Signature of Parent or Caretaker Relative	Date